



National Interagency Fire Center

3838 S. Development Avenue
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December 17, 2004

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs

From: National MAC Group

Subject: Incident Management Team Size

Background – Over the past several years the number of team members on Type 1 and 2 Incident Management Teams (IMTs) has increased significantly. In some cases, Type 1 and 2 IMTs have mobilized with 80 to 110 people. This far exceeds the team size and configuration approved by the NWCG and published in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide (NIMG). Per the NIMG, standard team configurations are:

Short Team (Command/General Staff) – total of 10 positions
Long Team – additional 17 positions
Trainees – maximum of 6 positions
Total number of positions – maximum of 33

In 2000 the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) tasked the Incident Operations Working Team (IOSWT) to evaluate the configuration of IMTs. Based on the recommendations in the IOSWTs final report, the NWCG decision was not to change the team size standard.

Decision – This issue was discussed with the Geographic Area Coordinating Group Representatives at the 2004 NMAC – GMAC meeting in Boise. The decision from both groups is to strictly adhere to direction in the NIMG with the following key points:

- This decision applies to national mobilization. Geographic Areas may allow additional team members at their discretion for internal assignments, with respect to meeting Interagency Fire Program Management Standards (IFPM), Consent Decree, or other management objectives.
- Additional positions or other needs are to be negotiated with the agency administrator and fire management once the team has arrived at the host unit, not over the phone prior to arrival.

- Additional positions will be ordered as individual overhead requests in order to mobilize the closest available resource. Name requests or additions to the team roster in ROSS from the IMTs home Area will not be accepted.

This decision will promote cost containment and at the same time, more of our personnel will be available for assignment opportunities. Your support and cooperation is appreciated.

/s/ Don Artley
Chair, NMAC